

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 05968 091235Z

45

ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 SPC-01 DPW-01 INR-10 INRE-00 CIAE-00

IO-03 IOE-00 AF-04 EUR-10 NSC-10 NSCE-00 DODE-00

DRC-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /061 W
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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2487

INFO USINT CAIRO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T T I A L GENEVA 5968

LIMDIS

TEHRAN FOR SIEVERTS, RED CROSS CONFERENCE

E.O.111652 NA

TAGS PFOR AAORD (ICRC) ME

SUBJ:ICRC ASSISTANCE IN MIDDLE EAST-POWS

REF STATE 209518

1. GALLOPIN OF ICRC CALLED IN CHARGE TO INQUIRE WHETHER, IN
LIGHT OF REPORTED EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI AGREEMENT ON COMPROMISE

PLAN TO STABILIZE MIDDLE EAST CEASEFIRE, MISSION HAD RECEIVED
ANY INFO ON THE MANNER IN WHICH IT IS CONTEMPLATED THAT REPATRIA-
TION OF POWS WILL BE CARRIED OUT WHEN PLAN IS IMPLEMENTED.

2. REFERRING TO EARLIER STATEMENT BY CHARGE OCT 24 (PURSUANT
TO REFTTEL) THAT US HOPED POW EXCHANGE WOULD OCCUR EARLY AND
WITHIN 72-HOURS OF CEASEFIRE IF POSSIBLE, GALLOPIN SAID ICRC
HAS BEEN IN CONSTANT STATE OF ALERT SINCE THEN AND IS READY AND
ABLE TO CARRY OUT ITS RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER GENEVA CONVENTIONS
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 05968 091235Z

AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. HE ALSO SAID HE EXPECTS EARLY APPROACH TO ICRC FROM EGYPTIANS AND ISRAELIS ON MODALITIES OF POW EXCHANGE AND THEREFORE WISHES ALL INFO AVAILABLE TO US ON ANY AGREEMENTS REACHED BY THEM RESPECTING POWWS.

3. ICRC HAS TWO AIRCRAFT BASED ON CYPRUS AND ANOTHER AIRCRAFT OFFERED BY GERMANY ON STANDBY. ALL CAN BE USED FOR TRANSPORT WOUNDED POWS, CIVILIANS, OR OTHERS IN NEED. ICRC STAFF IN FIELD AND HEADQUARTERS FULLY OPERATIONAL AND READY TO BEGIN OPERATIONS IMMEDIATELY WHEN POSSIBLE.

4. IN ORDER RESPOND TO GALLOPIN'S APPEAL, REQUEST WE BE INFORMED URGENTLY AND IN DETAIL OF ANY AGREEMENTS RE POWS REACHED BY ISRAELIS AND EGYPTIANS AND MANNER IT ENVISAGED THESE AGREEMENTS WILL BE CARRIED OUT. BASSIN

NOTE BY OC/T: LIMDIS CAPTION ADDED BY MR. KURZE, S/S-O, 11/9/73.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WAR, ARMISTICE, SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, POW RETURN, EMERGENCY PLANNING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973GENEVA05968
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DG ALTERED
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731144/aaaabgom.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: STATE 209518
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: WITHDRAWN <09-Oct-2001 by eisnerah, 3.4.X6>; RELEASED <05-Dec-2001 by golinofr>; APPROVED <06-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CRC ASSISTANCE IN MIDDLE EAST-POWS
TAGS: PFOR, EAID, XF, XI, ICRC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005